

STATINTL

## Art Buchwald at Home

# What Hath God Wrought?

WASHINGTON.

No matter what newspaper you open these days, you're bound to find a story about call girls. The Christine Keeler-John Profumo-Stephen Ward story started the fad and now every country is looking into its own call-girl situation. This is not so much out of any serious soul-searching, as much as it certainly helps newspaper circulation during the long hot summer months.

In New York attempts have been made to get UN leader U Thant to investigate the charges that call girls had become part of the United Nations. So far all that has been dug up is that one call girl, holding of all things a journalist's card, (Oh, the shame of it all!) plied her trade in the delegate's lounge and that Christine Keeler and her girl friend came to New York and lived in a hotel filled with UN representatives for a week. Whether Christine worked or played or just went sightseeing has never been revealed, though we like to think her only reason for visiting New York was to see the Easter show at Radio City Music Hall.

And that isn't enough we just read in the paper the other day that call girls were suspected of being used by California lobbyists to influence the state legislature.

There are probably some people who are wondering just what a call girl is. A call girl is one who is called on the telephone for a date for which she accepts money to pay her telephone bill.

Every country that has telephones has call girls.

That is why Alexander Graham Bell's first words on his telephone were "What hath God wrought?"

The difference between a call girl and one who plies her trade in a house of ill repute is that a call girl has an answering service.

Some call girls do not necessarily get paid by the person they are dating. They are paid by a third party to please a second party whom they are trying to soften up for either a business deal, a political favor or information for espionage purposes.

In some cases the second party is unaware that the first party (the call girl) is getting paid by the third party, until the third party produces photographs of the first party and the second party having a party together. This is known as blackmail.

The iron curtain countries are pretty good at this sort of thing and most of the girls in the Communist world are paid by the state. In the free world call girls are part of the free enterprise system and this is one of the things the cold war is all about. In the free world you have your choice of call girls, while in a totalitarian country you have to take what the state gives you.

Former chief of the CIA Allen Dulles said in a TV interview the other day that the use of sex as a lure in espionage is worldwide and "as long as there is sex it's going to be used."

Therefore we must assume that even the United States uses call girls when necessary to get the information it wants. But we like to think the girls on our side are doing this dangerous work for patriotic reasons only, and give the money they earn to charity.

It is only when a call girl compromises her own side, as in the case of Miss Keeler, who almost brought down her own government by granting her favors to both a British cabinet minister and a Russian naval attache, that the line must be drawn. Miss Keeler abused her telephone privileges. For this reason, if for nothing else, we think she should be drummed out of our answering service in disgrace.

© 1963 N.Y. Herald Tribune Inc.

1250000

00100